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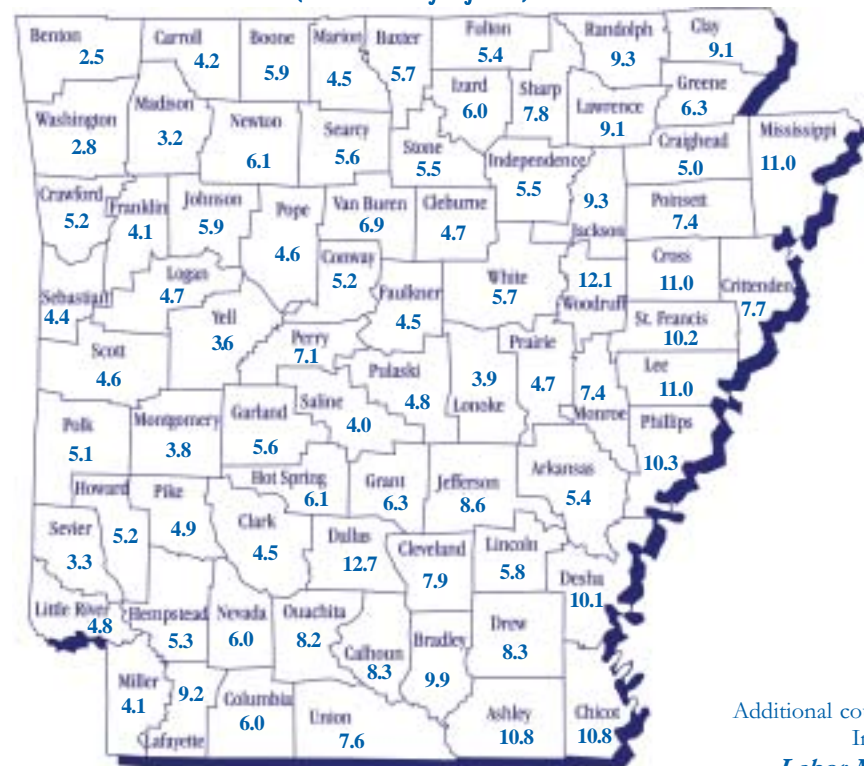
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Arkansas Unemployment Rates by County April 2004 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Additional county statistics are available from the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board in the monthly publication,
Labor Market Information for Arkansas Counties.

Mike Huckabee - Governor
State of Arkansas

Sandra Winston - Executive Director
Arkansas Workforce Investment Board

Labor Market Trends is a publication of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs Section of the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board. This newsletter is published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor.

■ Fifty-three of Arkansas' 75 counties had lower unemployment rates in April 2004 than in April 2003. Eighteen counties had higher rates this year, while rates were the same in four counties.

■ Seven Arkansas counties had jobless rates between 3.0 percent and 4.0 percent in April 2004. Benton County, with 2.5 percent unemployed, had the state's lowest rate. Washington County, at 2.8 percent, had the second lowest rate.

■ The highest unemployment rate--12 percent---was posted in Dallas County. The second highest rate was 12.1 percent; it was posted in Woodruff County.

Arkansas Labor Market Trends



April 2004

State's Nonfarm Count Rises Again

Arkansas' nonfarm payroll employment (not seasonally adjusted) expanded by 3,900 between March and April to total 1,148,300. Both the goods producing and service providing sectors gained jobs over the month. **Professional-business services** and **leisure-hospitality** provided over 75 percent of the monthly job increase.

The **leisure and hospitality** sector added 2,000 jobs to reach a total of 89,500 in April. A seasonal gain of 1,400 was noted in food services.

Professional and business services employment was up 1,000 between months. Increased hiring at firms that provide employment services accounted for much of the gain.

Employment in **construction** advanced 600, raising the industry total to 49,500. The largest increase was in "specialty trade contractors" (+400).

Jobs in **trade, transportation and utilities** rose 500 in April to 239,200. An employment gain in retail trade was partially offset by an employment loss in transportation and warehousing.

A seasonal increase of 300 jobs in **financial activities** raised its job level to 50,700.

Gains of 100 jobs each, were noted in **natural resources-mining, education-health services** and **other services**.

Employment in the **government** sector totaled 202,400 in April, a decline of 500 since March. All segments--federal, state, and local--noted job losses.

The number of jobs was down 200 in the **information** sector between March and April.

Manufacturing employment declined 100 to the 203,300 level in April. Nondurable goods industries lost 500 jobs, which were mostly offset by a gain of 400 jobs in the durable goods industries.

Continued on page 2



Arkansas Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

North American Industry Classification	April 04	March 04	April 03
Total Nonfarm	1,148,300	1,144,400	1,142,700
Goods Producing	259,600	259,000	263,100
Natural Resources & Mining	6,800	6,700	6,800
Mining	3,600	3,600	3,600
Construction	49,500	48,900	50,100
Construction of Buildings	11,200	11,200	11,200
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	9,900	9,700	10,500
Specialty Trade Contractors	28,400	28,000	28,400
Manufacturing	203,300	203,400	206,200
Durable Goods	107,600	107,200	109,700
Wood Products	14,000	13,800	14,100
Primary Metals	8,100	8,000	8,200
Fabricated Metals	17,700	17,600	17,500
Machinery	14,300	14,300	14,500
Computer & Electronic Products	6,000	6,000	6,000
Electrical Equipment	12,700	12,900	13,100
Transportation Equipment	16,000	15,700	15,800
Furniture & Related Products	7,900	8,000	8,900
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6,700	6,600	7,000
Nondurable Goods	95,700	96,200	96,500
Food	52,700	52,800	51,800
Paper & Printing	17,200	17,100	17,300
Plastics & Rubber Products	12,900	13,300	13,400
Service Providing	888,700	885,400	879,600
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	239,200	238,700	237,400
Wholesale Trade	44,300	44,300	44,400
Retail Trade	129,500	128,800	127,400
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	17,700	17,600	17,300
General Merchandise Stores	35,300	35,000	34,000
Department Stores	10,400	10,300	10,300
Transportation, Warehouse, & Utilities	65,400	65,600	65,600
Utilities	6,700	6,700	6,700
Transportation & Warehousing	58,700	58,900	58,900
Truck Transportation	34,700	34,500	34,000
Warehousing & Storage	9,900	10,100	9,600
Information	19,900	20,100	20,000
Publishing Industries	6,300	6,300	6,100
Telecommunications	8,600	8,700	8,800
Financial Activities	50,700	50,400	49,800
Finance & Insurance	38,100	37,900	37,200
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12,600	12,500	12,600
Professional & Business Services	103,400	102,400	103,100
Professional, Scientific, & Technical	31,000	31,000	31,200
Management of Companies	24,000	23,800	23,400
Administrative & Support Services	48,400	47,600	48,500
Employment Services	22,000	21,400	22,400
Education & Health Services	142,900	142,800	139,500
Educational Services	12,600	12,600	12,500
Health Care & Social Assistance	130,300	130,200	127,000
Ambulatory Health Care	39,600	39,500	38,200
Hospitals	42,500	42,400	41,300
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	25,400	25,500	25,200
Social Assistance	22,800	22,800	22,300
Leisure & Hospitality	89,500	87,500	88,100
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8,700	8,500	8,700
Accommodation & Food Services	80,800	79,000	79,400
Accommodation Services	11,000	10,600	10,400
Food Services	69,800	68,400	69,000
Other Services	40,700	40,600	40,700
Automotive Repair	7,300	7,300	7,300
Government	202,400	202,900	201,000
Federal Government	20,900	21,000	20,900
State Government	67,600	67,800	67,000
Local Government	113,900	114,100	113,100

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Nonfarm - *Continued from Page 1*

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment in Arkansas advanced 5,600. Service providing industries gained 9,100 jobs, while goods producing industries lost 3,500.

Employment in **education and health services** rose 3,400 over the year. Health care and social assistance facilities accounted for almost all of the growth.

Jobs in **trade, transportation and utilities** were up 1,800. Growth in retail trade was responsible for the increase, notably at general merchandise stores.

Compared to the previous year, employment in **leisure and hospitality** advanced 1,400. Hiring in the accommodations and food services segment accounted for the gain.

Government, which includes federal, state and local agencies, as well as educational facilities, added 1,400 positions since April 2003. Over 50 percent of this growth was traced to local government.

The number of jobs in the **financial activities** sector advanced 900 over the year. Finance and insurance companies were responsible for the gain.

Employment in the **professional and business services** sector was up 300 over the year. The “management of companies” category accounted for the growth.

Manufacturing industries have lost 2,900 (-1.4 percent) jobs since April 2003. Durable goods accounted for 2,100 of this loss and nondurable goods made up 800. The largest loss (-1,000) was in the furniture and related products industry.

Construction employment fell by 600 positions. The decline was traced to the completion of large construction projects.

Jobholders in the **information** sector declined 100.

The number of **natural resources-mining** and **other services** jobs remained at 6,800 and 40,700, respectively.

Minimum Wage Workers—Who Are They?

According to Current Population Survey estimates for 2003, some 72.9 million American workers were paid at hourly rates, representing 59.6 percent of all wage and salary workers. Of those paid by the hour, 545,000 were reported as earning exactly \$5.15, the prevailing Federal minimum wage, and another 1.6 million were reported with wages below the minimum. Together, these 2.1 million workers with wages at or below the minimum made up 2.9 percent of all hourly-paid workers.

- Minimum wage workers tend to be young. Slightly over half of workers earning \$5.15 or less were under age 25, and about one-fourth were age 16-19. Among teenagers, about 10 percent earned \$5.15 or less. About 2 percent of workers age 25 and over earned the minimum wage or less. However, among those age 63 and over, the proportion was 4 percent.
- About 4 percent of women paid hourly rates reported wages at or below the prevailing Federal minimum, compared with 2 percent of men.
- Three percent of white hourly-paid workers earned \$5.15 or less, roughly the same proportion as Blacks, and for Hispanics. The figure was slightly lower for Asians at 2 percent. For whites and Hispanics, women were about twice as likely as men to be low-wage earners.

This is the first in a series of articles, taken from a paper by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics and published in the *Labor Review* May 2004. Next month, more characteristics will be presented.

Consumer Price Index for the United States: April 2004

	1982-1984=100 Base					Percent Change Since:	
	Apr. 04	Mar. 04	Apr. 03	Mar. 04	Apr. 03		
All Urban Consumers	188.0	187.4	183.8	+ 0.3	+ 2.3		
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers	183.5	182.9	179.8	+ 0.3	+ 2.1		

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Hours & Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries - State of Arkansas

NAICS Industry	Average Weekly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Apr. 2004	Mar. 2004	Apr. 2003	Apr. 2004	Mar. 2004	Apr. 2003	Apr. 2004	Mar. 2004	Apr. 2003	Mar. 2004	Apr. 2003	Apr. 2003
Manufacturing	\$536.11	\$534.26	\$544.71	39.8	39.4	39.5	\$13.47	\$13.56	\$13.79			
Durable Goods	574.08	567.18	536.18	41.6	41.1	39.6	13.80	13.80	13.54			
Wood Products	613.18	603.29	563.28	43.0	42.1	42.9	14.26	14.33	13.13			
Fabricated Metals	595.27	587.30	548.02	40.8	40.7	39.2	14.59	14.43	13.98			
Nondurable Goods	496.11	499.33	552.95	37.9	37.6	39.3	13.09	13.28	14.07			
Food	378.08	379.24	457.46	36.6	36.5	38.9	10.33	10.39	11.76			

Technical Notes

“Labor Market Trends” is prepared monthly in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The current month's estimates are preliminary, while all previous data are subject to revision.

Estimates of nonfarm payroll jobs show the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work.

Hours and earnings estimates are based on payroll and worker-hour data collected for production workers in manufacturing industries.

Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System.

All estimates are based on a first quarter 2003 benchmark.

Explanation of Terms and Concepts

Monthly Business Survey of Employers - A monthly sample survey designed to provide industry information on nonfarm payroll jobs. Data are compiled each month from mail questionnaires and telephone interviews by the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board in cooperation with BLS. The data are based on establishment records and include all workers, full- or part-time, who received pay during the payroll period which includes the 12th of the month. Approximately 4,000 business establishments are included in the Arkansas survey.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) - A term applied by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to counties that have one or more central cities and that meet specified criteria of population density, commuting patterns and social and economic integration.

Current Population Survey (CPS)- A monthly sample survey of the population 16 years of age and over, designed to provide data on the labor force, the employed and the unemployed. The survey is conducted each month by the Bureau of the Census for BLS. The information is col-

lected by trained interviewers from a sample of about 50,000 households. The data collected are based on the activity reported for the calendar week including the 12th of the month. A total of 871 Arkansas households are represented in the sample survey.

Civilian Labor Force - The sum of all employed and unemployed persons 16 years of age or older. Members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

Employment - An estimate of the number of persons who worked any time for pay or profit or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month. Also included are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, and persons involved in labor management disputes.

Unemployment - An estimate of the number of persons who did not have a job, but were available for work and actively seeking work during the calendar week which includes the 12th of the month.

Unemployment Rate - The number of unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labor force.

Seasonal Adjustment - A statistical technique applied to monthly data to eliminate changes that normally occur during the year due to such seasonal events as changes in the weather, major holidays, shifts in production schedules, harvest times, and the opening and closing of schools.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) - A measure of the average change in prices over time of a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation fares, and other items that people buy for day-to-day living. The CPI shown in this publication represents the U.S. city average and is not seasonally adjusted. There is no separate consumer price index for Arkansas.

Labor Force Statistics

Arkansas (Seasonally Adjusted)	April 2004	March 2004	April 2003
Civilian Labor Force	1,316,600	1,310,900	1,266,300
Employment	1,243,300	1,239,800	1,189,500
Unemployment	73,300	71,100	76,800
Rate	5.6	5.4	6.1
Arkansas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)			
Civilian Labor Force	1,316,700	1,308,300	1,266,300
Employment	1,245,600	1,233,500	1,191,900
Unemployment	71,100	74,800	74,400
Rate	5.4	5.7	5.9
Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers			
Civilian Labor Force	179,375	177,450	167,025
Employment	174,625	172,450	162,350
Unemployment	4,750	5,000	4,675
Rate	2.6	2.8	2.8
Fort Smith			
Civilian Labor Force	102,175	102,000	98,500
Employment	97,300	97,000	93,350
Unemployment	4,875	5,000	5,150
Rate	4.8	4.9	5.2
Jonesboro			
Civilian Labor Force	46,200	46,025	44,400
Employment	43,875	43,550	42,300
Unemployment	2,325	2,475	2,100
Rate	5.0	5.4	4.7
Little Rock-North Little Rock			
Civilian Labor Force	323,725	321,175	309,250
Employment	309,025	305,900	294,500
Unemployment	14,700	15,275	14,750
Rate	4.5	4.8	4.8
Pine Bluff			
Civilian Labor Force	37,650	38,000	36,250
Employment	34,400	34,850	32,875
Unemployment	3,250	3,150	3,375
Rate	8.6	8.3	9.3
United States Unemployment Rates:			
Seasonally Adjusted	5.6	5.7	6.0
Not Seasonally Adjusted	5.4	6.0	5.8

Note: MSA data are not seasonally adjusted.



Pine Bluff Metropolitan Statistical Area

Few Changes in Nonfarm Sector

In April total nonfarm payroll jobs for the Pine Bluff MSA showed little change from the previous month. The service providing group created 100 new jobs, while goods producing jobs held at the March level. Sectors showing the most growth were: professional-business services (+100), and leisure-hospitality (+100). Only one major industry--education and health services (-100) posted a decrease in April.

From April 2003 to April 2004, impressive gains were posted in total nonfarm payroll jobs. The count was up 2.3 percent (+800) due to small-to-moderate additions in five of the ten major industry sectors. The manufacturing sector (+400) was responsible for the largest increase, followed by education-health services (+200).

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

North American Industry Classification	April 04	March 04	April 03
Total Nonfarm	36,300	36,200	35,500
Goods Producing	8,100	8,100	7,700
Natural Resources & Construction	900	900	900
Manufacturing	7,200	7,200	6,800
Nondurable Goods	4,500	4,500	4,400
Service Providing	28,200	28,100	27,800
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	6,400	6,400	6,400
Wholesale Trade	1,000	1,000	1,000
Retail Trade	4,100	4,100	4,100
Transportation, Warehouse, & Utilities	1,300	1,300	1,300
Information	200	200	300
Financial Activities	1,300	1,300	1,300
Professional & Business Services	2,400	2,300	2,300
Education & Health Services	5,500	5,600	5,300
Leisure & Hospitality	2,300	2,200	2,200
Other Services	1,400	1,400	1,400
Government	8,700	8,700	8,600
Federal Government	1,800	1,800	1,700
State Government	3,300	3,200	3,400
Local Government	3,600	3,700	3,500

Jonesboro Metropolitan Statistical Area

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Total Decreases in April

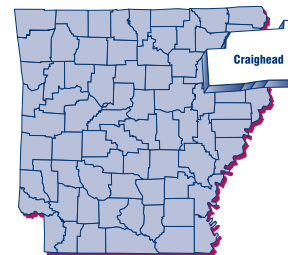
The total number of nonfarm payroll jobs decreased 100 in the Jonesboro MSA during April, partly reversing the gain of the previous month. An increase was posted in the manufacturing industry for the second month in a row. The leisure-hospitality and trade-transportation-utilities groups noted decreases, while job levels in the other seven major groups were unchanged.

Generally, the Jonesboro MSA employment numbers have held fairly constant the past few months.

When looking at the year-to-year employment picture for the MSA, individual industry totals were constant except for four. Construction-mining, leisure-hospitality, professional-business, and education-health services had combined losses of 600 jobs over the year.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

North American Industry Classification	April 04	March 04	April 03
Total Nonfarm	41,000	41,100	41,600
Construction & Mining	1,900	1,900	2,000
Manufacturing	7,700	7,600	7,700
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	7,700	7,800	7,700
Information	700	700	700
Financial Activities	1,500	1,500	1,500
Professional & Business Services	3,100	3,100	3,300
Education & Health Services	6,500	6,500	6,700
Leisure & Hospitality	3,700	3,800	3,800
Other Services	1,500	1,500	1,500
Government	6,700	6,700	6,700



Fayetteville - Springdale - Rogers Metropolitan Statistical Area



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

North American Industry Classification	April 04	March 04	April 03
Total Nonfarm	175,400	174,300	170,300
Goods Producing	37,900	37,800	37,700
Natural Resources, Mining, & Construction	8,000	7,900	7,700
Manufacturing	29,900	29,900	30,000
Durable Goods	12,600	12,500	12,700
Fabricated Metals	3,600	3,600	3,600
Nondurable Goods	17,300	17,400	17,300
Food	12,200	12,300	12,400
Service Providing	137,500	136,500	132,600
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	43,200	43,000	41,700
Wholesale Trade	8,000	7,900	7,300
Retail Trade	17,900	18,000	17,200
General Merchandise Stores	5,000	5,000	5,100
Transportation, Warehouse, & Utilities	17,300	17,100	17,200
Information	2,200	2,300	2,200
Financial Activities	6,700	6,700	6,400
Professional & Business Services	27,300	26,900	27,200
Employment Services	3,200	3,100	3,600
Education & Health Services	16,100	16,000	15,300
Hospitals	4,700	4,700	4,600
Leisure & Hospitality	14,000	13,700	13,400
Other Services	4,900	4,800	4,800
Government	23,100	23,100	21,600
Federal Government	1,900	1,900	1,800
State Government	8,500	8,500	7,600
Local Government	12,700	12,700	12,200

Growth Continues in April

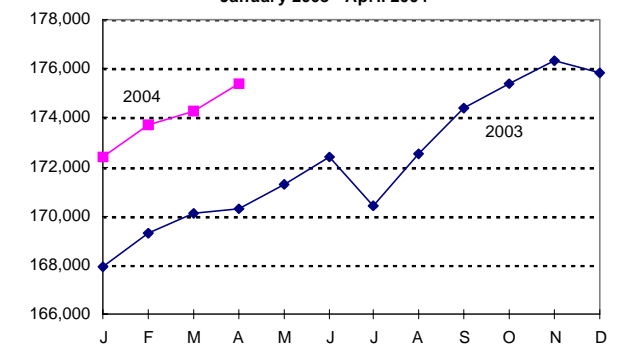
For the third consecutive month, nonfarm employment in the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA increased. Nonfarm payroll jobs gained 1,100 to total 175,400 in April.

Six major sectors added jobs over the month. The largest increase was 400 in professional and business services. The next largest increase was 300 in leisure and hospitality.

Since April 2003, nonfarm payroll jobs have risen 5,100, for a growth rate of 3.0 percent. Eight major sectors posted gains. The only loss occurred in the manufacturing sector (-100).

Yearly advances ranged from 100 in other services to 1,500 in both trade-transportation-utilities, and government. Most of the gain in trade, transportation, and utilities was posted in trade, with retail trade, and wholesale trade adding 700 jobs, each.

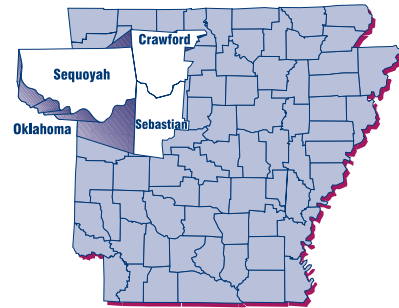
Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers MSA
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs
January 2003 - April 2004



Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

	Apr. 04	Mar. 04	Apr. 03
Average Weekly Earnings	\$543.56	\$543.58	\$523.94
Average Weekly Hours	40.9	41.4	38.3
Average Hourly Earnings	\$13.29	\$13.13	\$13.68

Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

North American Industry Classification	April 04	March 04	April 03
Total Nonfarm	99,500	99,600	99,300
Goods Producing	31,200	31,200	30,100
Natural Resources & Mining	1,100	1,000	900
Construction	4,700	4,600	4,400
Manufacturing	25,400	25,600	24,800
Durable Goods	14,600	14,700	14,500
Electrical Equipment	6,000	6,100	5,800
Nondurable Goods	10,800	10,900	10,300
Food	7,400	7,500	6,800
Service Providing	68,300	68,400	69,200
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	19,800	19,800	19,700
Wholesale Trade	3,200	3,200	3,200
Retail Trade	11,000	11,000	11,000
General Merchandise Stores	3,500	3,500	3,400
Transportation, Warehouse, & Utilities	5,600	5,600	5,500
Truck Transportation	4,100	4,100	4,000
Information	1,500	1,500	1,600
Financial Activities	3,600	3,600	3,600
Professional & Business Services	9,000	9,000	9,700
Employment Services	3,700	3,600	4,400
Education & Health Services	12,500	12,600	13,100
Health Care & Social Assistance	12,300	12,300	12,600
Hospitals	4,400	4,400	4,800
Leisure & Hospitality	7,400	7,300	7,100
Other Services	2,800	2,800	2,800
Government	11,700	11,800	11,600
Federal Government	1,300	1,300	1,300
State Government	2,000	2,000	1,900
Local Government	8,400	8,500	8,400

Job Count Shows Little Change

Nonfarm payroll jobs for the Fort Smith MSA fell 100 between March and April 2004, bringing the total nonfarm count to 99,500. The manufacturing sector recorded a decrease of 200. Government and education-health services posted losses of 100 jobs, each.

Job gains were recorded in three sectors--natural resources-mining, construction, and leisure-hospitality (+100, each).

Total nonfarm jobs in the Fort Smith MSA increased over the year. The number of jobs in the manufacturing sector rose 600, making up the largest gain. The increase was mainly from the nondurable goods subsector. Other sectors recording job increases were: construction +300, leisure-hospitality +300, natural resources-mining +200, government +100 and trade, transportation-utilities +100.

Professional and business services lost 700 jobs over the year, with all losses coming from the employment services subsector.

Hours & Earnings of Production Workers

Manufacturing Industries

	April 04	March 04	April 03
Average Weekly Earnings	\$534.20	\$515.14	\$572.19
Average Weekly Hours	39.6	38.3	40.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$13.49	\$13.45	\$13.99

Little Rock - North Little Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area



Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

North American Industry Classification	April 04	March 04	April 03
Total Nonfarm	316,600	315,200	317,200
Goods Producing	40,800	40,300	41,800
Natural Resources, Mining, & Construction	16,900	16,500	16,900
Special Trade Contractors	9,400	9,400	9,600
Manufacturing	23,900	23,800	24,900
Durable Goods	14,700	14,500	15,500
Fabricated Metals	3,000	2,900	3,100
Computer & Electronic Equipment	2,300	2,300	2,300
Transportation Equipment	3,300	3,300	3,400
Nondurable Goods	9,200	9,300	9,400
Service Providing	275,800	274,900	275,400
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	65,500	65,400	66,400
Wholesale Trade	15,700	15,700	15,700
Retail Trade	33,900	33,800	33,800
Food & Beverage Stores	4,500	4,500	4,600
General Merchandise Stores	8,300	8,300	7,600
Transportation, Warehouse, & Utilities	15,900	15,900	16,900
Information	9,200	9,300	9,300
Telecommunications	4,900	5,000	5,200
Financial Activities	19,700	19,600	19,200
Professional & Business Services	39,200	39,100	39,600
Computer Systems	4,800	4,900	5,200
Employment Services	8,500	8,600	8,300
Education & Health Services	41,000	40,900	40,500
Hospitals	12,800	12,800	12,600
Leisure & Hospitality	24,900	24,600	24,600
Food Services	18,800	18,600	19,000
Other Services	12,000	12,000	12,100
Government	64,300	64,000	63,700
Federal Government	9,300	9,300	9,300
State Government	29,600	29,600	29,200
Local Government	25,400	25,100	25,200

Nonfarm Count Rises for Second Consecutive Month

In April the nonfarm payroll jobs count rose for the second consecutive month in the Little Rock-North Little Rock MSA. The February-April gain was 2,100, while the March to April increase was 1,400. The month-to-month increase was greatest in natural resources and construction (+400) and largely due to seasonal factors. Seven other major industry groups posted increases in April. Leisure-hospitality and government had the second largest gain (+300, each).

Though total nonfarm numbers are up considerably between months, the year-to-year change falls in the minus column. Declines in manufacturing and trade-transportation-utilities jobs were influential in the 600 downturn over the year. A comparison by major industry shows five groups posted fewer jobs and four had more jobs. Gains in government (+600), financial activities (+500), education-health services (+500), and leisure-hospitality (+300) were not strong enough to produce a year-to-year increase in total nonfarm employment.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers

	Manufacturing Industries			Durable Goods Industries		
	Apr. 04	Mar. 04	Apr. 03	Apr. 04	Mar. 04	Apr. 03
Average Weekly Earnings	\$606.91	\$617.70	\$571.17	\$641.14	\$646.15	\$576.69
Average Weekly Hours	43.6	43.5	41.6	45.6	45.6	40.9
Average Hourly Earnings	\$13.92	\$14.20	\$13.73	\$14.06	\$14.17	\$14.10